(b) whether a request has been made to promote DART game as a sport by telecasting on DD Sports Channel; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to telecast capsules of DART game as a sport on prime time alots on DD Sports Channel?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) Yes Sir. Prasar Bharati has intimated that one such request from a foreign company manufacturing DART Boards was received but the same was rejected as the company was indirectly interested in promotion of its products in the Indian market and as per Doordarshan's Code of telecast, such promotion is not allowed.

Surplus Staff in AIR Doordarshan

1521. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Akashvani and Doordarshan are too much overstaffed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps contemplated to remedy it; and

(d) whether the development of the Official electronic media in the immediate futufre will absorb the surplus cadres?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati Corporation have informed that there is no surplus staff in Doordarshan and All India Radio as compared to the sanctioned strength.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Setting up of New Radio Stations in the Country

1522. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up new radio stations in the country in general and in Tamil Nadu, in particular; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?